

Principal's Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

"AND ALL AT ONCE, SUMMER COLLAPSED INTO FALL" – OSCAR WILDE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Panther Families,

We had a wonderful Go Gold Day on Friday and would like to thank everyone who participated by donating money, participating in the various school activities (featured below) and wearing gold or yellow. The total amount raised is still being determined, but we sure showed our support for Pediatric Cancer awareness and research this September! I will share final totals in next week's newsletter.

Our volleyball and tennis teams continued their winning streaks, and we are predicting that each will be in the finals on October 9th! We hope to see you at this week's games.

Lastly, we are looking for dads who would like to join our "All Pro Dad's" chapter at Sarasota Middle School. The commitment involves you meeting once each month, share donuts, and engage in conversation with your kid and other interested males at SMS. If you are interested, please contact our PTOS at ptsopanthers@gmail.com.

Happy fall! 🍁

IMPORTANT DATES

10/2 - Tennis/Volleyball @ SMS

10/4 - Tennis/Volleyball @ Booker

10/5 - PTSO Meeting - 9:30 AM in the Media Center - All are welcome!!

10/6 - Picture Day

10/9 - Volleyball Playoffs @ RHS - 6:00 PM

10/13 - SAC Meeting 8:15 AM in the Art room

10/16 - Professional Day - No School

10/20 - 6th Grade Glow Party - see flier below

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND CAMPUS?

GO GOLD DAY!

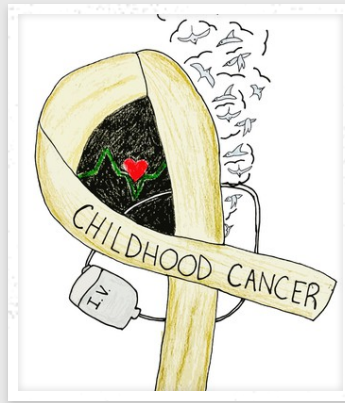
It was wonderful to see so many students and staff dressed in yellow or gold on Friday! Pictured below is Mrs. Prince, Mrs. Dorr, Mrs. Patt, and Mrs. Sams along with several of their students. Mrs. Sams is co-chair of the Go Gold Day fundraising activities at Sarasota Middle. She and Mrs. West came up with many creative ways to get our students involved in this important cause (see pictures below). We are so grateful for their leadership.



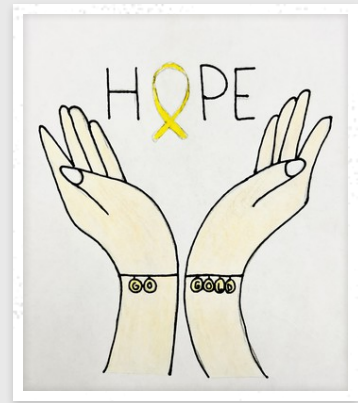
Students in Dr. Tracey's art classes participated in Go Gold day by holding an art contest. The amazing student art work, featured below, was posted in the cafeteria last week. Our students voted with change or bills for their favorite finalist drawing. We will know who won next week!



**SOFIYA
KLIMUK**



**CHLOE
CRABTREE**



**CARINA
CARDONE**



**EMMA
GRANTHON**



**VIVIAN
CROCKETT**



AVA VALABEK

Students school-wide also had the opportunity to participate in a writing contest. Megan Murdock's winning poem is featured below.

A Magical Deed

A child needs magic
a deed or two
to cheer them up
to help push them through

It might be a card
or a trip to a place
from a loved one or peer
to put a smile on their face

From a frown to a smile
to a place of joy,
anything at all
even a toy

A child needs magic
a small deed or two
to give them assurance
to bring them joy

Anyone can,
Even you

This poem shows that even if a child is going through cancer or an illness,
any deed that someone might do can help them cheer up or push through.
I believe that with love, care, kindness, anyone could help any kid push
through those hard times.

Megan Murdock
7th grade, Sarasota Middle School

Sixth grade students who participated in the day by wearing gold or yellow shared a photo op with Principal Nzeza during lunch.



MESSAGE FROM MRS. ZOPPO – PBIS CHAIR

Dear Sarasota Middle School Families,

Here is the link to the Amazon wish list for our Positive Behavior and Intervention Support (PBIS): Link: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/8DZHKOY8E6X6?ref_=wl_share

The SMS staff and PBIS team strive to teach students the character skills necessary for building a strong and positive community. Every day at SMS, students earn “Panther Paws” from teachers and staff, to both encourage and reward demonstrating key character traits outlined in our school Panther Pact (we ask students to be Polite, Prepared, Productive and have Safe Behaviors). Students can turn their “paws” in for a weekly raffle to win various rewards. Because of this system, we have seen a dramatic decrease in negative discipline.

When asking students what rewards they would be interested in winning at those weekly raffles, students constantly asked for gift cards to local businesses, restaurants, etc. In looking to expand our community further, the SMS PBIS team is asking for donations from the community, to recycle back into the community, and build partnerships between the community and SMS.

We have so many students doing the right thing every day, so in working with the community and any donation that can be provided, the PBIS team at SMS hopes that the positive behavior students demonstrate on campus can have a bigger and more positive impact outside of campus by supporting our local community businesses. SMS is looking to partner with local businesses to get donations such as gift cards, coupons, candy, snacks, etc. to use as rewards. We cannot accept cash donations.

Thank you for your consideration!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please consider becoming a Level 2 volunteer. This allows you to work any and all of our events at school, be in the classroom, and attend field trips. I'm told it takes about 5 minutes to register online and about 10 minutes to get your fingerprinting completed at the Landings.

Here is the link that will take you directly to the site. 😊

<https://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/Page/1369>

Thank you!!

WHO CAN GET ENOUGH OF THE COLORS OF AUTUMN?

Kids always want to know the "why" – this great set of activities helps students deduce all kinds of answers to why the leaves turn colors.



ABOUT US

Facebook @smspanthers

Sarasota Middle School, Ashto...

jennifer.nzeza@sarasotacount...

941-361-6464

sarasotacountyschools.net/sc...



Info Night 23-24 Flyer.pdf

Download

628.7 KB



What is AICE Flyer Short 23-24.pdf

Download

128.5 KB



Middle School Golf Schedule 23.24.pdf

Download

11.5 KB



Middle School Track Schedule 23.34.pdf

[Download](#)

11.9 KB

